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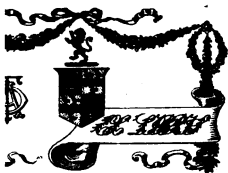
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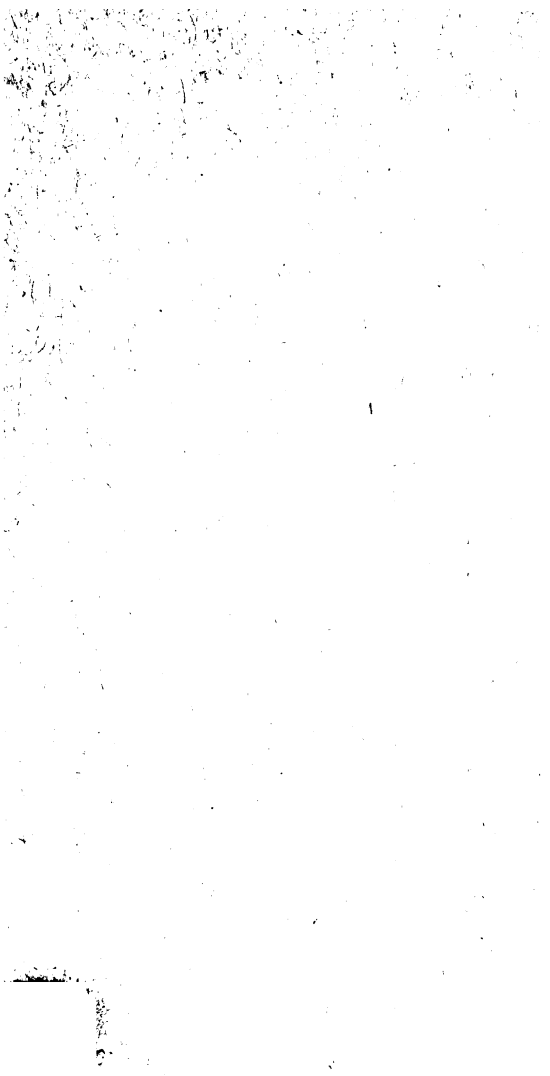


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J. & W. THOMSON

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A
SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY
THROUGH
FRANCE AND ITALY.

BY
MR. YORICK.
Lawrence, Esq.

VOL. I.

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SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY,

&c. &c.

15

—**T**HEY order, said I, this
matter better in France—

—You have been in France? said
my gentleman, turning quick upon
me with the most civil triumph in
the world.—Strange! quoth I, de-
bating the matter with myself, That
one and twenty miles failing, for 'tis
absolutely no further from Dover to
Calais, should give a man these

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B

rights

rights—I'll look into them: so giving up the argument—I went straight to my lodgings, put up half a dozen shirts and a black pair of silk breeches —“ the coat I have on, said I, looking at the sleeve, will do”—took a place in the Dover stage; and the packet sailing at nine the next morning—by three I had got sat down to my dinner upon a fricassée'd chicken, so incontestably in France, that had I died that night of an indigestion, the whole world could not have suspended the effects of the * *Droits*

* All the effects of strangers (Swiss and Scotch excepted) dying in France. are seized by virtue of this law, tho' the heir be upon the spot — the profit of these contingencies being farm'd, there is no redress.

Dr. Goldsmith

d'aubaine—my shirts, and black pair of silk breeches—portmanteau and all must have gone to the King of France—even the little picture which I have so long worn, and so often have told thee, Eliza, I would carry with me into my grave, would have been torn from my neck.—Ungenerous!—to seize upon the wreck of an unwary passenger, whom your subjects had beckon'd to their coast—by heaven! SIRE, it is not well done; and much does it grieve me, 'tis the monarch of a people so civilized and courteous, and so renown'd for sentiment and fine feelings, that I have to reason with——

But I have scarce set foot in your dominions——

C A L A I S.

WHEN I had finish'd my dinner, and drank the King of France's health, to satisfy my mind that I bore him no spleen, but, on the contrary, high honour for the humanity of his temper—I rose up an inch taller for the accommodation.

—No—said I—the Bourbon is by no means a cruel race: they may be misled like other people; but there is a mildness in their blood. As I acknowledged this, I felt a suffusion of a finer kind upon my cheek—more warm and friendly to man, than
wath

what Burgundy (at least of two livres a bottle, which was such as I had been drinking) could have produced.

—Just God! said I, kicking my portmanteau aside, what is there in this world's goods which should sharpen our spirits, and make so many kind-hearted brethren of us, fall out so cruelly as we do by the way?

When man is at peace with man, how much lighter than a feather is the heaviest of metals in his hand! he pulls out his purse, and holding it airily and uncompress'd, looks round him, as if he sought for an object to share it with.—In doing this, I felt

every vessel in my frame dilate—the arteries beat all chearily together, and every power which sustained life, perform'd it with so little friction, that 'twould have confounded the most *physical precieuse* in France: with all her materialism, she could scarce have called me a machine—

I'm confident, said I to myself, I should have overset her creed.

The accession of that idea, carried nature, at that time, as high as she could go—I was at peace with the world before, and this finish'd the treaty with myself—

Now,

[7]

—Now, was I a King of France,
cried I—what a moment for an or-
phan to have begg'd his father's
portmanteau of me!

THE MONK.

CALAIS.

I HAD scarce utter'd the words,
 when a poor monk of the order
 of St. Francis came into the room to
 beg something for his convent. No
 man cares to have his virtues the
 sport of contingencies—or one man
 may be generous, as another man is
 puissant—*sed non, quo ad hanc*—or be
 it as it may—for there is no regular
 reasoning upon the ebbs and flows
 of our humours; they may depend
 upon the same causes, for aught
 I know, which influence the tides
 themselves—'twould oft be no dis-
 credit

credit to us, to suppose it was so: I'm sure at least for myself, that in many a case I should be more highly satisfied, to have it said by the world, "I had had an affair with the moon, in which there was neither sin nor shame," than have it pass altogether as my own act and deed, wherein there was so much of both.

—But be this as it may. The moment I cast my eyes upon him, I was predetermined not to give him a single fous; and accordingly I put my purse into my pocket—button'd it up—set myself a little more upon my centre, and advanced up gravely to him: there was something, I fear, forbidding in my look: I have his
figure

figure this moment before my eye
and think there was that in it which
deserved better.

The monk, as I judged from the
break in his tonsure, a few scatter'd
white hairs upon his temples, being
all that remained of it, might be
about seventy—but from his eyes,
and that sort of fire which was in
them, which seemed more temper'd
by courtesy than years, could be no
more than sixty—Truth might lie be-
tween—He was certainly sixty-five;
and the general air of his counte-
nance, notwithstanding something
seem'd to have been planting wrinkles
in it before their time, agreed to the
account.

It

It was one of those heads, which Guido has often painted—mild, pale—penetrating, free from all common-place ideas of fat contented ignorance looking downwards upon the earth—it look'd forwards; but look'd, as if it look'd at something beyond this world. How one of his order came by it, heaven above, who let it fall upon a monk's shoulders, best knows: but it would have suited a Bramin, and had I met it upon the plains of Indostan, I had revered it.

The rest of his outline may be given in a few strokes; one might put it into the hands of any one to design, for 'twas neither elegant or otherwise,

otherwise, but as character and expression made it so: it was a thin, spare form, something above the common size, if it lost not the distinction by a bend forwards in the figure—but it was the attitude of Intreaty; and as it now stands presented to my imagination, it gain'd more than it lost by it.

When he had enter'd the room three paces, he stood still; and laying his left hand upon his breast, (a slender white staff with which he journey'd being in his right)—when I had got close up to him, he introduced himself with the little story of the wants of his convent, and the poverty of his order—and did it with
so

so simple a grace—and such an air of deprecation was there in the whole cast of his look and figure—I was bewitch'd not to have been struck with it—

—A better reason was, I had pre-determined not to give him a single fous.

THE MONK.

CALAIS.

—'TIS very true, said I, replying to a cast upwards with his eyes, with which he had concluded his address—'tis very true—and heaven be their resource who have no other but the charity of the world, the stock of which, I fear, is no way sufficient for the many *great claims* which are hourly made upon it.

As I pronounced the words *great claims*, he gave a slight glance with his eye downwards upon the sleeve of

of his tunick—I felt the full force of the appeal—I acknowledge it, said I—a coarse habit, and that but once in three years, with meagre diet—are no great matters; and the true point of pity is, as they can be earn'd in the world with so little industry, that your order should wish to procure them by pressing upon a fund which is the property of the lame, the blind, the aged, and the infirm—the captive who lies down counting over and over again the days of his afflictions, languishes also for his share of it; and had you been of the *order of mercy*, instead of the order of St. Francis, poor as I am, continued I, pointing at my portmanteau, full cheerfully should it have been open'd

to you, for the ransom of the unfortunate—The monk made me a bow—but of all others, resumed I, the unfortunate of our own country, surely, have the first rights; and I have left thousands in distress upon our own shore.—The monk gave a cordial wave with his head—as much as to say, No doubt, there is misery enough in every corner of the world, as well as within our convent—But we distinguish, said I, laying my hand upon the sleeve of his tunick, in return for his appeal—we distinguish, my good Father! betwixt those who wish only to eat the bread of their own labour—and those who eat the bread of other people's, and have no other plan in life, but to get
through

through it in sloth and ignorance, *for the Love of God.*

The poor Franciscan made no reply : a hectic of a moment pass'd across his cheek, but could not tarry—Nature seemed to have had done with her resentments in him; he shewed none—but letting his staff fall within his arm, he press'd both his hands with resignation upon his breast, and retired.

THE MONK.

CALAIS.

MY heart smote me the moment he shut the door—Psha! said I with an air of carelessness, three several times—but it would not do: every ungracious syllable I had utter'd, crouded back into my imagination: I reflected, I had no right over the poor Franciscan, but to deny him; and that the punishment of that was enough to the disappointed without the addition of unkind language—I consider'd his grey hairs—his courteous figure seem'd to re-enter and gently ask me what injury he had done me?—and why I cou'

use him thus—I would have given twenty livres for an advocate—I have behaved very ill, said I within myself; but I have only just set out upon my travels; and shall learn better manners as I get along.

P R E F A C E
IN THE DESOBLIGEANT.

IT must have been observed
 many a peripatetic philosopher
 That nature has set up by
 own unquestionable authority cert
 boundaries and fences to circu
 scribe the discontent of man: she
 effected her purpose in the quiet
 and easiest manner, by laying h
 under almost insuperable obligati
 to work out his ease, and to sust
 his sufferings at home. It is th
 only that she has provided him w
 the most suitable objects to parta
 of his happiness, and bear a part
 that burden which, in all countr
 and ages, has ever been too hea

for one pair of shoulders. 'Tis true we are endued with an imperfect power of spreading our happiness sometimes beyond *her* limits, but 'tis so ordered, that from the want of languages, connections, and dependencies, and from the difference in education, customs and habits, we lie under so many impediments in communicating our sensations out of our own sphere, as often amount to a total impossibility.

It will always follow from hence, that the balance of sentimental commerce is always against the expatriated adventurer: he must buy what he has little occasion for at their own price—his conversation

will seldom be taken in exchange for theirs, without a large discount; and this, by the by, eternally driving him into the hands of more equitable brokers for such conversation as he can find, it requires a great spirit of divination to guess his party.—

This brings me to my point; and naturally leads me (if the fee-faw this *Desobligeant* will but let me go on) into the efficient as well as the final causes of travelling—

Your idle people that leave the native country, and go abroad for some reason or reasons which may be derived from one of these general causes—

Infirmi

Infirmity of body,
 Imbecility of mind, or
 Inevitable necessity.

The first two include all those who travel by land or by water, labouring with pride, curiosity, vanity or spleen, subdivided and combined in *infinitum*.

The third class includes the whole army of peregrine martyrs; more especially those travellers who set out upon their travels with the benefit of the clergy, either as delinquents travelling under the direction of governors recommended by the magistrate — or young gentlemen transported by the cruelty of parents and guardians, and travelling under the direction of governors recommended

commended by Oxford, Aberdeen and Glasgow.

There is a fourth class, but their number is so small that they would not deserve a distinction, was it not necessary in a work of this nature to observe the greatest precision and nicety, to avoid a confusion of character. And these men I speak of, are such as cross the seas and sojourn in a land of strangers with a view of saving money, for various reasons and upon various pretences: but as they might also save themselves and others a great deal of unnecessary trouble by saving their money at home—and as their reasons for travelling are the least complex of any other species of emigrants, I shall distinguish

distinguish these gentlemen by the name of

Simple Travellers.

Thus the whole circle of travellers may be reduced to the following *Heads*.

Idle Travellers,
Inquisitive Travellers,
Lying Travellers,
Proud Travellers,
Vain Travellers,
Splenetic Travellers.

Then follow the Travellers of Necessity.

The delinquent and felonious Traveller,

The unfortunate and innocent Traveller,

The simple Traveller,

And

And last of all (if you please)

Sentimental Traveller (meaning thereby myself) who have travelled and of which I am now fitting down to give an account—as much out of *Necessity*, and the *besoin de Voyager* as any one in the class.

I am well aware, at the same time, as both my travels and observations will be altogether of a different cast from any of my forerunners; that I might have insisted upon a whole nitch entirely to myself—but I should break in upon the confines of the *Vain Traveller*, in wishing to draw attention towards me, till I have some better grounds for it, than the mere *Novelty of my Vehicle*. It

It is sufficient for my reader, if he has been a traveller himself, that with study and reflection hereupon he may be able to determine his own place and rank in the catalogue—it will be one step towards knowing himself; as it is great odds, but he retains some tincture and resemblance, of what he imbibed or carried out, to the present hour.

The man who first transplanted the grape of Burgundy to the Cape of Good Hope (observe he was a Dutchman) never dreamt of drinking the same wine at the Cape, that the same grape produced upon the French mountains—he was too phlegmatic for that—but undoubtedly

edly he expected to drink from
 of vinous liquor ; but whether
 bad, or indifferent—he knew en
 of this world to know, that it
 not depend upon his choice,
 that what is generally called *cha*
 was to decide his success: howev
 he hoped for the best; and in th
 hopes, by an intemperate confiden
 in the fortitude of his head, and th
 depth of his discretion, *Mynbee*
 might possibly overset both in hi
 new vineyard; and by discovering
 his nakedness, become a laughing
 stock to his people.

Even so it fares with the poo
 Traveller, sailing and posting throug
 the politer kingdoms of the globe

in pursuit of knowledge and improvements.

Knowledge and improvements are to be got by failing and posting for that purpose; but whether useful knowledge and real improvements, is all a lottery—and even where the adventurer is successful, the acquired stock must be used with caution and sobriety to turn to any profit—but as the chances run prodigiously the other way both as to the acquisition and application, I am of opinion, That a man would act as wisely, if he could prevail upon himself, to live contented without foreign knowledge or foreign improvements, especially
if

if he lives in a country that has absolute want of either—and indeed much grief of heart has it oft many a time cost me, when I have observed how many a foul step inquisitive Traveller has measured to see sights and look into diversities; all which, as Sancho Panza said to Don Quixote, they might have seen dry-shod at home. It is an age so full of light, that there is scarce a country or corner of Europe whose beams are not crossed and interchanged with others—Knowledge in most of its branches, and in most affairs, is like music in an Italian street, whereof those may partake, who pay nothing—But there is no nation under heaven—
—and

—and God is my record, (before whose tribunal I must one day come and give an account of this work)—that I do not speak it vauntingly—But there is no nation under heaven abounding with more variety of learning—where the sciences may be more fitly woo'd, or more surely won than here—where art is encouraged, and will so soon rise high—where Nature (take her all together) has so little to answer for—and, to close all, where there is more wit and variety of character to feed the mind with—Where then, my dear countrymen, are you going—

—We are only looking at this chaise, said they—Your most obedient

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dient servant, said I, skipping out of it, and pulling off my hat—We were wondering, said one of them, who, I found, was an *inquisitive traveller*—what could occasion its motion.—’Twas the agitation, said I coolly, of writing a preface—I never heard, said the other, who was a *simple traveller*, of a preface wrote in a *Desobligeant*.—It would have been better, said I, in a *Vis a Vis*.

—*As an Englishman does not travel to see Englishmen*, I retired to my room.

C A L A I S.

I Perceived that something darken'd the passage more than myself, as I stepp'd along it to my room; it was effectually Monsr. Dessen, the master of the hôtel, who had just return'd from vespers, and, with his hat under his arm, was most complaisantly following me, to put me in mind of my wants. I had wrote myself pretty well out of conceit with the *Desobligeant*; and Monsr. Dessen speaking of it, with a shrug, as if it would no way suit me, it immediately struck my fancy that it belong'd to some *innocent traveller*, who, on his

return home, had left it to Mons^r. Dessein's honour to make the most of. Four months had elapsed since it had finished its career of Europe in the corner of Mons^r. Dessein's coach-yard; and having sallied out from thence but a vampt-up business at the first, though it had been twice taken to pieces on Mount Sennis, it had not profited much by its adventures—but by none so little as the standing so many months unpitied in the corner of Mons^r. Dessein's coach-yard. Much indeed was not to be said for it—but something might—and when a few words will rescue misery out of her distress, I hate the man who can be a churl of them.

—Now

—Now was I the master of this Hôtel, said I, laying the point of my fore-finger on Monf. Dessein's breast, I would inevitably make a point of getting rid of this unfortunate *Desobligeant*—it stands swinging reproaches at you every time you pass by it—

Mon Dieu! said Monf. Dessein—I have no interest—Except the interest, said I, which men of a certain turn of mind take, Monf. Dessein, in their own sensations—I'm persuaded, to a man who feels for others as well as for himself, every rainy night, disguise it as you will, must cast a damp upon your spirits—You suffer, Monf. Dessein, as much as the machine—

every man's hand against thee—Heaven forbid ! said she, raising her hand up to her forehead, for I had turned full in front upon the lady whom I had seen in conference with the monk—she had followed us unperceived—Heaven forbid indeed said I, offering her my own—it had a black pair of silk gloves open only at the thumb and two for fingers, so accepted it without reserve—and I led her up to the door of the Remise.

Monfieur *Dessain* had *diabled* the key above fifty times before he found out he had come with a wrong one in his hand : we were as impatient as himself to have it open'd ; and I
 attentiv

The dose was made up exactly after my own prescription; so I could not help taking it—and returning *Monf. Dessen* his bow, without more casuistry we walk'd together towards his *Remise*, to take a view of his magazine of chaises.

leaving us, had been fatal to the situation—she had infallibly told me about—so I began the conversation instantly.—

—But what were the temptations (as I write not to apologize for the weaknesses of my heart in this) —but to give an account of the same shall be described with the simplicity, with which I felt the

THE REMISE DOOR.

C A L A I S.

WHEN I told the reader that I did not care to get out of the *Desobligeant*, because I saw the monk in close conference with a lady just arrived at the inn—I told him the truth; but I did not tell him the whole truth; for I was full as much restrained by the appearance and figure of the lady he was talking to. Suspicion crossed my brain, and said, he was telling her what had passed: something jarred upon it within me—I wished him at his convent.

When

When the heart flies out before the understanding, it saves the judgment a world of pains—I was certain she was of a better order of beings—however, I thought no more of her, but went on and wrote my preface.

The impression returned, upon my encounter with her in the street; a guarded frankness with which she gave me her hand, shewed, I thought, her good education and her good sense; and as I led her on, I felt a pleasurable ductility about her, which spread a calmness over all my spirits—

—God

—Good God! how a man might lead such a creature as this round the world with him!—

I had not yet seen her face—'twas not material; for the drawing was instantly set about, and long before we had got to the door of the Remise, *Fancy* had finish'd the whole head, and pleased herself as much with its fitting her goddess, as if she had dived into the TIBER for it—but thou art a seduced, and a seducing slut; and albeit thou cheatest us seven times a day with thy pictures and images, yet with so many charms dost thou do it, and thou deckest out thy pictures in the shapes of so many angels of light, 'tis a shame to break with thee.

When

When we had got to the door of the Remise, she withdrew her hand from across her forehead, and let me see the original—it was a face of about six and twenty—of a clear transparent brown, simply set off without rouge or powder—it was not critically handsome, but there was that in it, which in the frame of mind I was in, which attached me much more to it—it was interesting. I fancied it wore the characters of a widow'd look, and in that state of its declension, which had passed through two first paroxysms of sorrow, and was quietly beginning to reconcile itself to its loss—but a thousand other distresses might have traced the same lines; I wish'd to know
 who

what they had been—and was ready to enquire; (had the same *bon ton* of conversation permitted, as in the days of Esdras)—“*What aileth thee? and why art thou disquieted? and why is thy understanding troubled?*”—In a word, I felt benevolence for her; and resolved some way or other to throw in my mite of courtesy—if not of service.

Such were my temptations—and in this disposition to give way to them, was I left alone with the lady with her hand in mine, and with our faces both turned closer to the door of the Remise than what was absolutely necessary.

THE REMISE DOOR.

C A L A I S.

THIS certainly, fair lady! said I, raising her hand up a little lightly as I began, must be one of Fortune's whimsical doings: to take two utter strangers by their hands—of different sexes, and perhaps from different corners of the globe, and in one moment place them together in such a cordial situation, as Friendship herself could scarce have atchieved for them, had she projected it for a month—

—And

—And your reflection upon it, shews how much, Monsieur, she has embarrassed you by the adventure—

When the situation is what we would wish, nothing is so ill-timed as to hint at the circumstances which make it so: you thank Fortune, continued she—you had reason—the heart knew it, and was satisfied; and who but an English philosopher would have sent notices of it to the brain to reverse the judgment?

In saying this, she disengaged her hand with a look which I thought a sufficient commentary upon the text.

It is a miserable picture which I am going to give of the weakness of my heart, by owning, that it suffered a pain, which worthier occasions could not have inflicted.—I was mortified with the loss of her hand, and the manner in which I had lost it carried neither oil nor wine to the wound: I never felt the pain of a sheepish inferiority so miserably in my life.

The triumphs of a true feminine heart are short upon these discomfitures. In a very few seconds she laid her hand upon the cuff of my coat, in order to finish her reply; so some way or other, God knows how, I regained my situation.

1

—She

—She had nothing to add.

I forthwith began to model a different conversation for the lady, thinking from the spirit as well as moral of this, that I had been mistaken in her character; but upon turning her face towards me, the spirit which had animated the reply was fled—the muscles relaxed, and I beheld the same unprotected look of distress which first won me to her interest—melancholy! to see such sprightliness the prey of sorrow.—I pitied her from my soul, and though it may seem ridiculous enough to a torpid heart,—I could have taken her into my arms, and cherished her,

though it was in the open street, without blushing.

The pulsations of the arteries along my fingers pressing across hers, told her what was passing within me: she looked down—a silence of some moments followed.

I fear, in this interval, I must have made some slight efforts towards a closer compression of her hand, from a subtle sensation I felt in the palm of my own—not as if she was going to withdraw hers—but, as if she thought about it—and I had infallibly lost it a second time, had not instinct more than reason directed me to the last resource
in

in these dangers—to hold it loosely, and in a manner as if I was every moment going to release it, of myself; so she let it continue, till Monsieur *Desselin* returned with the key; and in the mean time I set myself to consider how I should undo the ill impressions which the poor monk's story, in case he had told it her, must have planted in her breast against me.

THE SNUFF-BOX

CALAIS.

THE good old monk was within six paces of us, as the idea of him cross'd my mind; and was advancing towards us a little out of line, as if uncertain whether he should break in upon us or no.—He stopped however, as soon as he came up to us, with a world of frankness; and having a horn snuff-box in his hand he presented it open to me—You shall taste mine—said I, pulling out my box (which was a small tortoise-shell one) and putting it into his hand

'Tis most excellent, said the monk;
 Then do me the favour, I replied, to
 accept of the box and all, and when
 you take a pinch out of it, sometimes
 recollect it was the peace-offering of
 a man who once used you unkindly,
 but not from his heart.

The poor monk blush'd as red as
 scarlet. *Mon Dieu!* said he, press-
 ing his hands together—you never
 used me unkindly.—I should think,
 said the lady, he is not likely. I
 blush'd in my turn; but from what
 movements, I leave to the few who
 feel to analyse—Excuse me, Madame,
 replied I—I treated him most un-
 kindly; and from no provocations—
 'Tis impossible, said the lady.—My
 God!

God ! cried the monk, with a warmth of asseveration which seemed not to belong to him—the fault was in me, and in the indiscretion of my zeal—The lady opposed it, and I joined with her in maintaining it was impossible, that a spirit so regulated as his, could give offence to any.

I knew not that contention could be rendered so sweet and pleasurable a thing to the nerves as I then felt it.—We remained silent, without any sensation of that foolish pain which takes place, when in such a circle you look for ten minutes in one another's faces without saying a word. Whilst this lasted, the monk rubb'd his horn-box upon the sleeve of his tunic.

and as soon as it had acquired a little air of brightness by the friction—he made a low bow, and said, 'twas too late to say whether it was the weakness or goodness of our tempers which had involved us in this contest—but be it as it would—he begg'd we might exchange boxes—In saying this, he presented his to me with one hand, as he took mine from me in the other; and having kiss'd it—with a stream of good-nature in his eyes he put it into his bosom—and took his leave.

I guard this box, as I would the instrumental parts of my religion, to help my mind on to something better: in truth, I seldom go abroad without

without it; and oft and many a time have I called up by it the courteous spirit of its owner to regulate my own, in the justlings of the world; they had found full employment for his, as I learnt from his story, till about the forty-fifth year of his age, when upon some military services ill requited, and meeting at the same time with a disappointment in the tendereft of passions, he abandon'd the sword and the sex together, and took sanctuary, not so much in his convent as in himself.

I feel a damp upon my spirits, as I am going to add, that in my last return through Calais, upon inquiring after Father Lorenzo, I he

had been dead near three months,
 was buried, not in his convent,
 according to his desire, in a little
 burying place belonging to it, about two
 miles off: I had a strong desire to
 see where they had laid him—when,
 pulling out his little horn box,
 I sat by his grave, and plucking
 nettles or two at the head of it,
 I had no business to grow there,
 all struck together so forcibly
 my affections, that I burst into
 a flood of tears—but I am as weak as
 a man; and I beg the world not
 to blame, but pity me.

THE REMISE DOOR.

C A L A I S.

I HAD never quitted the lady's hand all this time; and had held it so long, that it would have been indecent to have let it go, without first pressing it to my lips: the blood and spirits, which had suffer'd a revulsion from her, crouded back to her, as I did it.

Now the two travellers who had spoke to me in the coach-yard, happening at that crisis to be passing by, and observing our communications, naturally took it into their heads that

we

we must be *man and wife* at least; so stopping as soon as they came up to the door of the Remise, the one of them, who was the inquisitive traveller, ask'd us, if we set out for Paris the next morning?—I could only answer for myself, I said; and the lady added, she was for Amiens.—We dined there yesterday, said the simple traveller—You go directly through the town, added the other, in your road to Paris. I was going to return a thousand thanks for the intelligence, *that Amiens was in the road to Paris*; but, upon pulling out my poor monk's little horn box to take a pinch of snuff—I made them a quiet bow, and wishing them a
good

—But she had glided off unperceived, as the cause was pleading, and had made ten or a dozen paces down the street, by the time I had made the determination; so I set off after her with a long stride, to make her the proposal with the best address I was master of; but observing she walk'd with her cheek half resting upon the palm of her hand—with the slow, short-measur'd step of thoughtfulness, and with her eyes, as she went step by step, fix'd upon the ground, it struck me, she was trying the same cause herself.—God help her! said I, she has some mother-in-law, or tartufish aunt, or nonsensical old woman, to consult upon the occasion, as well as myself: so not car-

Depend upon it, Yorick! said
DISCRETION, 'twill be said you went
 off with a mistress, and came by as-
 signation to Calais for that purpose—

—You can never after, cried **HY-
 POCRISY** aloud, shew your face in the
 world—or rise, quoth **MEANNESS**, in
 the church—or be any thing in it, said
PRIDE, but a lousy prebendary.

But 'tis a civil thing, said I—
 and as I generally act from the first
 impulse, and therefore seldom listen
 to these cabals, which serve no pur-
 pose, that I know of, but to encom-
 pass the heart with adamant—I turn'd
 instantly about to the lady—

IN THE STREET

CALAIS.

HAVING, on first sight of the lady, settled the affair in my fancy, “that she was of the better order of beings”—and then laid down as a second axiom, as indisputable as the first, That she was a widow, and wore a character of distress—I went no further; I got ground enough for the situation which pleased me—and had she remained close beside my elbow till midnight, I should have held true to my system, considered her only under that general idea.

She had scarce got twenty paces distant from me, ere something within me called out for a more particular inquiry—it brought on the idea of a further separation—I might possibly never see her more—the heart is for saving what it can; and I wanted the traces through which my wishes might find their way to her, in case I should never rejoin her myself: in a word, I wish'd to know her name—her family's—her condition; and as I knew the place to which she was going, I wanted to know from whence she came: but there was no coming at all this intelligence: a hundred little delicacies stood in the way. I form'd a score different plans—There was

THE REMISE.

CALAIS.

C'EST bien comique, 'tis very droll, said the lady smiling, from the reflection that this was the second time we had been left together by a parcel of nonsensical contingencies—*c'est bien comique*, said she—

—There wants nothing, said I, to make it so, but the comick use which the gallantry of a Frenchman would put it to—to make love the first moment, and an offer of his person the second.

'Tis

THE REMISE.

CALAIS.

AS the little French captain left us, Monf. Dessen came up with the key of the Remise in his hand, and forthwith let us into his magazine of chaises.

The first object which caught my eye, as Monf. Dessen open'd the door of the Remise, was another old tatter'd *Desobligeant*: and notwithstanding it was the exact picture of that which had hit my fancy so much in the coach-yard but an hour before—the very sight of it stirr'd up a disagreeable

the offer and themselves with it, to be sifted, with all their *pours* and *contres*, by an unheated mind.

The lady attended as if she expected I should go on.

Consider then, madam, continued I, laying my hand upon hers—

That grave people hate Love for the name's sake—

That selfish people hate it for their own—

Hypocrites for heaven's—

And that all of us, both old and young, being ten times worse
fright

frighten'd than hurt by the very *report*—What a want of knowledge in this branch of commerce a man betrays, whoever lets the word come out of his lips, till an hour or two at least after the time, that his silence upon it becomes tormenting. A course of small, quiet attentions, not so pointed as to alarm—nor so vague as to be misunderstood,—with now and then a look of kindness, and little or nothing said upon it—leaves Nature for your mistress, and she fashions it to her mind.—

Then I solemnly declare, said the lady, blushing—you have been making love to me all this while.

THE REMISE.

CALAIS.

MONSIEUR *Dessein* came back to let us out of the chaise, and acquaint the lady, the Count de L——, her brother, was just arrived at the hotel. Though I had infinite good-will for the lady, I cannot say, that I rejoiced in my heart at the event—and could not help telling her so—for it is fatal to a proposal, Madam, said I, that I was going to make to you—

—You need not tell me what the proposal was, said she, laying her
 ha: t

hand upon both mine, as she interrupted me.—A man, my good Sir, has seldom an offer of kindness to make to a woman, but she has a presentiment of it some moments before—

Nature arms her with it, said I, for immediate preservation—But I think, said she, looking in my face, I had no evil to apprehend—and to deal frankly with you, had determined to accept it.—If I had—(she stopped a moment)—I believe your good-will would have drawn a story from me, which would have made pity the only dangerous thing in the journey.

she got out of the chaise—
adieu.

IN THE STREET.

C A L A I S.

I NEVER finished a twelve-guinea bargain so expeditiously in my life: my time seemed heavy upon the loss of the lady, and knowing every moment of it would be as two, till I put myself into motion—I ordered post horses directly, and walked towards the hotel.

Lord! said I, hearing the town clock strike four, and recollecting that I had been little more than a single hour in Calais—

—What a large volume of adventures may be grasped within this little span of life by him who interests his heart in every thing, and who, having eyes to see, what time and chance are perpetually holding out to him as he journeyeth on his way, misses nothing he can *fairly* lay his hands on.—

—If this won't turn out something—another will—no matter—'tis *an* affay upon human nature—I get *my* labour for my pains—'tis enough—the pleasure of the experiment has kept my senses, and the best part of my blood awake, and laid the gro to sleep.

I pity the man who can travel from *Dan* to *Beerſheba*, and cry, 'Tis all barren—And ſo it is; and ſo is all the world to him who will not cultivate the fruits it offers. I declare, ſaid I, clapping my hands chearily together, that was I in a deſert, I would find out wherewith in it to call forth my affections—If I could not do better, I would faſten them upon ſome ſweet myrtle, or ſeek ſome melancholy cypreſs to connect myſelf to—I would court their ſhade, and greet them kindly for their protection—I would cut my name upon them, and ſwear they were the lovelieſt trees throughout the deſert: if their leaves wither'd, I would teach myſelf to mourn, and when they re-

joiced, I would rejoice along with them.

The learned SMELFUNGUS travelled from Boulogne to Paris—from Paris to Rome—and so on—but he set out with the spleen and jaundice, and every object he pass'd by was discoloured or distorted—He wrote an account of them, but 'twas nothing but the account of his miserable feelings.

I met Smelfungus in the grand portico of the Pantheon—he was just coming out of it—*'Tis nothing but a huge cock-pit**, said he—I wish you had said nothing worse of the Venus

• Vide S——'s Travels.

of Medicis, replied I—for in passing through Florence, I had heard he had fallen foul upon the goddess, and used her worse than a common strumpet, without the least provocation in nature.

I popp'd upon Smelfungus again at Turin, in his return home; and a sad tale of sorrowful adventures had he to tell, “wherein he spoke of
 “moving accidents by flood and field,
 “and of the cannibals which each
 “other eat: the Anthropophagi”—
 he had been flea'd alive, and bedevil'd, and used worse than St. Bartholomew, at every stage he had come at—

—I'll tell it, cried Smelfungus, to the world. You had better tell it, said I, to your physician.

Mundungus, with an immense fortune, made the whole tour; going on from Rome to Naples—from Naples to Venice—from Venice to Vienna—to Dresden, to Berlin, without one generous connection or pleasurable anecdote to tell of; but he had travell'd straight on, looking neither to his right hand or his left, lest Love or Pity should seduce him out of his road.

Peace be to them! if it is to be found; but heaven itself, was it possible to get there with such tempers, would

would want objects to give it—every gentle spirit would come flying upon the wings of Love to hail their arrival—Nothing would the souls of Smelfungus and Mundungus hear of, but fresh anthems of joy, fresh raptures of love, and fresh congratulations of their common felicity—I heartily pity them: they have brought up no faculties for this work; and was the happiest mansion in heaven to be allotted to Smelfungus and Mundungus, they would be so far from being happy, that the souls of Smelfungus and Mundungus would do penance there to all eternity.

M O N T R I U L.

I HAD once lost my portmanteau from behind my chaise, and twice got out in the rain, and one of the times up to the knees in dirt, to help the postilion to tie it on, without being able to find out what was wanting—Nor was it till I got to Montriul, upon the landlord's asking me if I wanted not a servant, that it occurred to me, that that was the very thing.

A servant! That I do most sadly, quoth I—Because, Monsieur, said the landlord, there is a clever young fellow,

low, who would be very proud of the honour to serve an Englishman—But why an English one, more than any other?—They are so generous, said the landlord—I'll be shot if this is not a livre out of my pocket, quoth I to myself, this very night—But they have wherewithal to be so, Monsieur, added he—Set down one livre more for that, quoth I—It was but last night, said the landlord, *qu'un my Lord Anglois presentoit un ecu a la fille de chambre—Tant pis, pour Mad^{lle} Janatone*, said I.

Now Janatone being the landlord's daughter, and the landlord supposing I was young in French, took the liberty to inform me, I should
not

the fellow determined the matter once in his favour; so I hired first—and then began to inquire he could do: But I shall find other talents, quoth I, as I want them besides, a Frenchman can do anything.

Now poor La Fleur could do nothing in the world but beat a drum and play a march or two upon fife. I was determined to make other talents do; and can't say my self was ever so insulted by a drum, as in the attempt.

La Fleur had set out earlier as gallantly as most Frenchmen with *serving* for a few years;

of which, having fatished the senti-
ment, and found moreover, That the
honour of beating a drum was likely
to be its own reward, as it open'd no
further track of glory to him—he
retired *a ses terres*, and lived *comme*
il plaisoit a Dieu—that is to say, upon
nothing.

—And so, quoth *Wisdome*, you
have hired a drummer to attend you
in this tour of your's through France
and Italy! Psha! said I, and do
not one half of our gentry go with a
humdrum *compagnon du voiage* the
same round, and have the piper and
the devil and all to pay besides?
When man can extricate himself with

an *equivoque* in such an unequal match—
 —he is not ill off—But you can do
 something else, La Fleur? said I—
 —O *qu'oui!*—he could make spa-
 terdashies, and play a little upon the
 fiddle—Bravo! said Wisdome—Why
 I play a bass myself, said I—we shall
 do very well. You can shave, and
 dress a wig a little, La Fleur?—He
 had all the dispositions in the world—
 It is enough for heaven! said I, in-
 terrupting him—and ought to be
 enough for me—So supper coming
 in, and having a frisky English spa-
 niel on one side of my chair, and a
 French valet, with as much hilarity
 in his countenance as ever nature
 painted in one, on the other—I was
 † satisfied

satisfied to my heart's content with my empire; and if monarchs knew what they would be at, they might be as satisfied as I was.

M O N T R I U

AS La Fleur went the v
 of France and Italy
 and will be often upon th
 must interest the reader a
 ther in his behalf, by sayi
 had never less reason to rep
 impulses which generally
 mine me, than in regard to
 low—he was a faithful, af
 simple soul as ever trudged
 heels of a philosopher; and
 standing his talents of dru
 and spatterdash-making, w
 very good in themselves,
 to be of no great service t

†

was I hourly recompensed by the festivity of his temper—it supplied all defects—I had a constant resource in his looks in all difficulties and distresses of my own—I was going to have added, of his too; but La Fleur was out of the reach of every thing; for whether 'twas hunger or thirst, or cold or nakedness, or watchings, or whatever stripes of ill luck La Fleur met with in our journeyings, there was no index in his physiognomy to point them out by—he was eternally the same; so that if I am a piece of a philosopher, which Satan now and then puts it into my head I am—it always mortifies the pride of the conceit, by reflecting how much I owe to the complexional philosophy

of this poor fellow, for shaming it into one of a better kind. With this, La Fleur had a small cast the coxcomb—but he seemed at first sight to be more a coxcomb of nature than of art; and before I had been three days in Paris with him—he seemed to be no coxcomb at all.

M O N T R I U L.

THE next morning La Fleur entering upon his employment, I delivered to him the key of my portmanteau with an inventory of my half a dozen shirts and silk pair of breeches; and bid him fasten all upon the chaise—get the horses put to—and desire the landlord to come in with his bill.

C'est un garçon de bonne fortune, said the landlord, pointing through the window to half a dozen wenches who had got round about La Fleur, and were most kindly taking their leave of him, as the postilion was leading out the horses. La Fleur

H 4

kissed

kissed all their hands round a
round again, and thrice he wiped h
eyes, and thrice he promised he wou
bring them all pardons from Rome.

The young fellow, said the land
lord, is beloved by all the town, and
there is scarce a corner in Montr
where the want of him will not be
felt: he has but one misfortune in
the world, continued he, "He is
"always in love."—I am heartily
glad of it, said I—'twill save me the
trouble every night of putting my
breeches under my head. In saying
this, I was making not so much La
Fleur's elege, as my own, having
been in love with one princess or
another almost all my life, and I
hope

hope I shall go on so, till I die, being firmly persuaded, that if ever I do a mean action, it must be in some interval betwixt one passion and another: whilst this interregnum lasts, I always perceive my heart locked up—I can scarce find in it, to give Misery a sixpence; and therefore I always get out of it as fast as I can, and the moment I am re-kindled, I am all generosity and good-will again; and would do any thing in the world either for, or with any one, if they will but satisfy me there is no sin in it.

—But in saying this—surely I am commending the passion—not myself.

A

A FRAGMENT.

—THE town of Abdera notwithstanding Democritus li there trying all the powers of ir and laughter to reclaim it, was vilest and most profligate town in Thrace. What for poisons, con racies and assassinations—libels, quinades and tumults, there was going there by day—'twas worse night.

Now, when things were at worst, it came to pass, that the dromeda of Euripides being represented at Abdera, the whole orche was delighted with it: but of all
pass

passages which delighted them, nothing operated more upon their imaginations, than the tender strokes of nature which the poet had wrought up in that pathetic speech of Perseus, *O Cupid, prince of God and men, &c.*

Every man almost spoke pure iam-bics the next day, and talk'd of nothing but Perseus his pathetic address—" O Cupid! prince of God "and men"—in every street of Abdera, in every house—" O Cupid! "Cupid!"—in every mouth, like the natural notes of some sweet melody which drops from it whether it will or no—nothing but "Cupid! Cupid! "prince of God and men"—The fire caught—and the whole city, like the

the heart of one man, open'd
to Love.

No pharmacopolist could sell one
grain of helebore—not a single a-
mourer had a heart to forge one in-
strument of death—Friendship and
Virtue met together, and kiss'd each
other in the street—the golden age
return'd, and hung over the town
Abdera—every Abderite took his
oaten pipe, and every Abderite
woman left her purple web, and
chastely sat her down and listen'd
the song—

'Twas only in the power, says the
Fragment, of the God whose empire
extends

[109]

extendeth from heaven to earth, and
even to the depths of the sea, to have
done this.

M O N T R I U L.

WHEN all is ready, and every article is disputed and paid for in the inn, unless you are a little sour'd by the adventure, there is always a matter to compound at the door, before you can get into your chaise; and that is with the sons and daughters of poverty, who surround you. Let no man say, "let them go to the devil"—'tis a cruel journey to send a few miserables, and they have had sufferings enow without it: I always think it better to take a few sous out in my hand; and I would counsel every gentle traveller

ler to do so likewise, he need not be so exact in setting down his motives for giving them—they will be regifter'd elsewhere.

For my own part, there is no man gives so little as I do; for few that I know have so little to give: but as this was the first publick act of my charity in France, I took the more notice of it.

A well-a-way! said I. I have but eight sous in the world, shewing them in my hand, and there are eight poor men and eight poor women for 'em.

A poor tatter'd soul without a shirt on instantly withdrew his claim, by
retiring

retiring two steps out of the circle, and making a disqualifying bow on his part. Had the whole parterre cried out, *Place aux dames*, with one voice, it would not have conveyed the sentiment of a deference for the sex with half the effect.

Just heaven! for what wise reasons hast thou order'd it, that beggary and urbanity, which are at such variance in other countries, should find a way to be at unity in this?

—I insisted upon presenting him with a single sous, merely for his *politesse*.

A poor little dwarfish brisk fellow, who stood over-against me in the circle, putting something first under his arm, which had once been a hat, took his snuff-box out of his pocket, and generously offer'd a pinch on both sides of him: it was a gift of consequence, and modestly declined — The poor little fellow press'd it upon them with a nod of welcomeness — *Prenez. en—prenez*, said he, looking another way; so they each took a pinch—Pity thy box should ever want one! said I to myself; so I put a couple of sous into it—taking a small pinch out of his box, to enhance their value, as I did it—He felt the weight of the second obligation more than that of the first—'twas

Vol. I. I doing

doing him an honour—the other was only doing him a charity—and he made me a bow down to the ground for it.

—Here ! said I to an old soldier with one hand, who had been campaign'd and worn out to death in the service—here's a couple of sous for thee—*Vive le Roi !* said the old soldier.

I had then but three sous left : I gave one, simply *pour l'amour de Dieu*, which was the footing on which it was begg'd—The poor woman has a dislocated hip ; so it could not be well, upon any other motive.

Mon cher et tres charitable Monsieur

—There's no opposing this, said I.

My Lord Anglois—the very sound was worth the money—so I gave *my last sous for it*. But in the eagerness of giving, I had overlook'd a *pauvre bonteux*, who had no one to ask a sous for him, and who, I believed, would have perish'd, ere he could have ask'd one for himself: he stood by the chaise a little without the circle, and wiped a tear from a face which I thought had seen better days—Good God! said I—and I have not one single sous left to give him—But you have a thousand! cried all the powers of nature, stirring within me—so I gave him—no matter what—I am

ashamed to say *how much*, now—
 was ashamed to think, how
 then : so if the reader can form
 conjecture of my disposition, as
 two fixed points are given him
 may judge within a livre or two
 was the precise sum.

I could afford nothing for the
 but, *Dieu vous benisse—Et le bon
 vous benisse encore*—said the old
 dier, the dwarf, &c. The *pauvre*
honteux could say nothing—he p
 out a little handkerchief, and w
 his face as he turned away—a
 thought he thank'd me more
 them all.

THE BIDE T.

HAVING settled all these little matters, I got into my post-chaise with more ease than ever I got into a post-chaise in my life; and La Fleur having got one large jack-boot on the far side of a little *bidet* *, and another on this (for I count nothing of his legs)—he canter'd away before me as happy and as perpendicular as a prince.—

—But what is happiness! what is grandeur in this painted scene of life! A dead ass, before we had got a league, put a sudden stop to La Fleur's career—his bidet would not

* Post-horse.

pass by it—a contention arose betwixt them, and the poor fellow was kick'd out of his jack-boots the very first kick.

La Fleur bore his fall like a French christian, saying neither more or less upon it, than, Diable! so presently got up, and came to the charge again astride his bidet, beating him up to it as he would have beat his drum.

The bidet flew from one side of the road to the other, then back again—then this way—then that way, and in short every way but by the dead ass.—La Fleur insisted upon the thing—and the bidet threw him.

What's

What's the matter, La Fleur, said I, with this bidet of thine?—*Mon-sieur*, said he, *c'est un cheval le plus opiniâtre du monde*—Nay, if he is a conceited beast, he must go his own way, replied I—so La Fleur got off him, and giving him a good sound lash, the bidet took me at my word, and away he scamper'd back to Montriul.—*Peste!* said La Fleur.

It is not *mal a propos* to take notice here, that though La Fleur availed himself but of two different terms of exclamation in this encounter—namely, *Diable!* and *Peste!* that there are nevertheless three, in the French language; like the positive, comparative, and superlative, one or

the other of which serve for every unexpected throw of the dice in life.

Le Diable ! which is the first, at positive degree, is generally used upon ordinary emotions of the mind, where small things only find out contrary to your expectations—such as—the throwing once double—La Fleur's being kick'd off his horse, and so forth—cuckoldom, for the same reason, is always—*Diable !*

But in cases where the cause is something provoking in it, as that of the bidet's running after, and leaving La Fleur aground in jack-boots—'tis the second d

'Tis then *Peste*!

And for the third—

—But here my heart is wrung
with pity and fellow-feeling, when
reflect what miseries must have
been their lot, and how bitterly so
efined a people must have smarted,
to have forced them upon the use of
it.—

Grant me, O ye powers which
such the tongue with eloquence in
distress!—whatever is my *cast*, Grant
me but decent words to exclaim in,
and I will give my nature way.

—But as these were not to be had
France, I resolved to take every
evil

evil just as it befell me without an exclamation at all.

La Fleur, who had made no such covenant with himself, followed the bidet with his eyes till it was out of sight—and then, you may imagine, if you please, with what word he closed the whole affair.

As there was no hunting down a frighten'd horse in jack-boots, there remained no alternative but to take La Fleur either behind the chair or into it.—

I preferred the latter, and in an hour we got to the post-house at Nampont.

N A M P O N T.

THE DEAD ASS.

—**A**ND this, said he, putting the remains of a crust into his wallet—and this, should have been thy portion, said he, hadst thou been alive to have shared it with me.—I thought by the accent, it had been an apostrophe to his child; but 'twas to his ass, and to the very ass we had seen dead in the road, which had occasioned La Fleur's misadventure. The man seemed to lament it much; and it instantly brought into my mind Sancho's lamentation

mentation for his ; but he did it with more true touches of nature.

The mourner was sitting upon stone-bench at the door, with the ass's pannel and its bridle on one side, which he took up from time to time—then laid them down—looked at them and shook his head. He then took his crust of bread out of his wallet again, as if to eat it ; he held it some time in his hand—then laid it upon the bit of his ass's bridle ; he looked wistfully at the little arrangement he had made—and then gave a sigh.

The simplicity of his grief touched the numbers about him, and La

an

amongst the rest, whilst the horses were getting ready ; as I continued sitting in the post-chaise, I could see and hear over their heads.

—He said he had come last from Spain, where he had been from the furthest borders of Franconia ; and had got so far on his return home, when his ass died. Every one seem'd desirous to know what business could have taken so old and poor a man so far a journey from his own home.

It had pleased heaven, he said, to bless him with three sons, the finest lads in all Germany ; but having in one week lost two of the eldest of them by the small-pox, and the youngest

youngest falling ill of the same distemper, he was afraid of being bereft of them all; and made a vow, if Heaven would not take him from him also, he would go in gratitude to St. Iago in Spain.

When the mourner got thus far on his story, he stopp'd to pay nature her tribute—and wept bitterly.

He said, Heaven had accepted the conditions; and that he had set out from his cottage with this poor creature, who had been a patient partner of his journey—that it had eat the same bread with him all the way, and was unto him as a friend.

Every

Every body who stood about, heard the poor fellow with concern—
 —La Fleur offered him money.—
 The mourner said, he did not want it—it was not the value of the ass—but the loss of him.—The ass, he said, he was assured loved him—and upon this told them a long story of a mischance upon their passage over the Pyrenean mountains which had separated them from each other three days; during which time the ass had fought him as much as he had fought the ass, and that they had neither scarce eat or drank till they met.

Thou hast one comfort, friend, said I, at least in the loss of thy poor beast; I'm sure thou hast been a merciful

ciful master to him.—Alas ! said mourner, I thought so, when he alive—but now that he is dead I think otherwise.—I fear the weight of myself and my afflictions together have been too much for him—they have shortened the poor creature's days, and I fear I have them to answer for.—Shame on the world, said I to myself—Did we love each other, as this poor soul but loved us—'twould be something.—

N A M P O N T.

THE POSTILLION.

THE concern which the poor fellow's story threw me into required some attention: the postillion paid not the least to it, but set off upon the *pavè* in a full gallop.

The thirstiest soul in the most sandy desert of Arabia could not have wished more for a cup of cold water, than mine did for grave and quiet movements; and I should have had an high opinion of the postillion, had he but stolen off with me in something like a pensive pace.—On the

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K

contrary,

contrary, as the mourner finished his lamentation, the fellow gave an unfeeling lash to each of his beasts, and set off clattering like a thousand devils.

I called to him as loud as I could, for heaven's sake to go slower—and the louder I called the more unmercifully he galloped.—The deuce take him and his galloping too—said I—he'll go on tearing my nerves to pieces till he has worked me into a foolish passion, and then he'll go slow, that I may enjoy the sweets of it.

The postillion managed the point to a miracle : by the time he had got
to

to the foot of a steep hill about half a league from Nampont,—he had put me out of temper with him—and then with myself, for being so.

My case then required a different treatment; and a good rattling gallop would have been of real service to me.—

—Then, prithee get on—get on, my good lad, said I.

The postillion pointed to the hill—I then tried to return back to the story of the poor German and his ass—but I had broke the clue—and could no more get into it again, than the postillion could into a trot.—

—The deuce go, said I, with all ! Here am I sitting as candidly disposed to make the best of the worst, as ever wight was, and a runs counter.

There is one sweet lenitive at least for evils, which Nature hold out to us ; so I took it kindly at her hands, and fell asleep ; and the first word which roused me was *Amiens*.

—Bless me ! said I, rubbing my eyes—this is the very town where my poor lady is to come.

A M, I E N S.

THE words were scarce out of my mouth, when the Count de L***'s post-chaise, with his sister in it, drove hastily by: she had just time to make me a bow of recognition—and of that particular kind of it, which told me she had not yet done with me. She was as good as her look; for, before I had quite finished my supper, her brother's servant came into the room with a billet, in which she said she had taken the liberty to charge me with a letter, which I was to present myself to Madame R*** the first

K 3

morning

morning I had nothing to do at Paris. There was only added, she was for but from what *penchant* she had considered, that she had been prevented telling me her story—that I still owed it me; and if my rout should ever lay through Bruffels, and I had not by then forgot the name of Madame de L* * *—that Madame L* * * would be glad to discharge her obligation.

Then I will meet thee, said I, f spirit! at Bruffels—'tis only returning from Italy through Germany Holland, by the rout of Flanders home—'twill scarce be ten posts of my way; but were it ten thousand! with what a moral delight w

it crown my journey, in sharing in the sickening incidents of a tale of misery told to me by such a sufferer? to see her weep! and though I cannot dry up the fountain of her tears, what an exquisite sensation is there still left, in wiping them away from off the cheeks of the first and fairest of women, as I'm sitting with my handkerchief in my hand in silence the whole night besides her.

There was nothing wrong in the sentiment; and yet I instantly reproached my heart with it in the bitterest and most reprobate of expressions.

It had ever, as I told the reader, been one of the singular blessings of my life, to be almost every hour of it miserably in love with some one; and my last flame happening to be blown out by a whiff of jealousy on the sudden turn of a corner, I had lighted it up afresh at the pure taper of Eliza but about three months before—swearing as I did it, that it should last me through the whole journey—Why should I dissemble the matter? I had sworn to her eternal fidelity—she had a right to my whole heart—to divide my affections was to lessen them—to expose them, was to risk them: where there is risk, there may be loss:—and what wilt thou

thou have, Yorick ! to answer to a heart so full of trust and confidence—so good, so gentle and unrepublishing ?

—I will not go to Brussels, replied I, interrupting myself—but my imagination went on—I recalled her looks at that crisis of our separation, when neither of us had power to say Adieu ! I look'd at the picture she had tied in a black ribband about my neck—and blush'd as I look'd at it—I would have given the world to have kiss'd it;—but was ashamed—And shall this tender flower, said I, pressing it between my hands—shall it be smitten to its very root—and smitten, Yorick !
by

by thee, who hast promised to
it in thy breast?

Eternal fountain of happiness
I, kneeling down upon the grave
be thou my witness—and ever
spirit which tastes it, be my
also, That I would not travel
Brussels, unless Eliza went along
me, did the road lead me to
heaven.

In transports of this kind, thou
in spite of the understanding,
ways say too much.

THE LETTER.

A M I E N S.

FORTUNE had not smiled upon La Fleur; for he had been unsuccessful in his feats of chivalry—and not one thing had offered to signalize his zeal for my service from the time he had entered into it, which was almost four and twenty hours. The poor soul burn'd with impatience; and the Count de L***'s servant's coming with the letter, being the first practicable occasion which offered, La Fleur had laid hold of it; and in order to do honour to his master,

master, had taken him into a back parlour in the Auberge, and treated him with a cup or two of the best wine in Picardy; and the Count de L***'s servant in return, and not to be behind hand in politeness with La Fleur, had taken him back with him to the Count's hôtel. La Fleur's *prevenancy* (for there was a passport in his very looks) soon set every servant in the kitchen at ease with him; and as a Frenchman, whatever be his talents, has no sort of prudery in shewing them, La Fleur, in less than five minutes, had pull'd out his fife, and leading off the dance himself with the first note, set the *fille de chambre*, the *maître d'hôtel*, the cook,

the scullion, and all the household, dogs and cats, besides an old monkey, a dancing : I suppose there never was a merrier kitchen since the flood.

Madame de L***, in passing from her brother's apartments to her own, hearing so much jollity below stairs, rung up her *fille de chambre* to ask about it ; and hearing it was the English gentleman's servant who had set the whole house merry with his pipe, she ordered him up.

As the poor fellow could not present himself empty, he had loaden'd himself in going up stairs with a thousand compliments to Madame de L***, on the part of his master—
added

added a long apocrypha of inquiries after Madame de L * * * 's health—told her, that Monsieur his master was *au desespoir* for her re-establishment from the fatigues of her journey—and, to close all, that Monsieur had received the letter which Madame had done him the honour — And he has done him the honour, said Madame de L * * *, interrupting La Fleur, to send a billet in return.

Madame de L * * * had said this with such a tone of reliance upon the fact, that La Fleur had not power to disappoint her expectations—he trembled for my honour—and possibly might not altogether be unconcerned

cerned for his own, as a man capable of being attached to a master who could be a wanting *en egards vis a vis d'une femme*; so that when Madame de L * * * asked La Fleur if he had brought a letter—*O qu'oui*, said La Fleur: so laying down his hat upon the ground, and taking hold of the flap of his right-side pocket with his left hand, he began to search for the letter with his right—then contrary-wise—*Diable!*—then sought every pocket—pocket by pocket, round, not forgetting his fob—*Peste!*—then La Fleur emptied them upon the floor—pulled out a dirty cravat—a handkerchief—a comb—a whip-lash—a nightcap—then gave a peep

into his hat—*Quelle étourderie !* He had left the letter upon the table in the Auberge—he would run for it, and be back with it in three minutes.

I had just finished my supper when La Fleur came in to give me an account of his adventure : he told the whole story simply as it was ; and only added, that if Monsieur had forgot (*par hazard*) to answer Madame's letter, the arrangement gave him an opportunity to recover the *faux pas*—and if not, that things were only as they were.

Now I was not altogether sure of my *etiquette*, whether I ought to have wrote or no ; but if I had—a devil
himself

himself could not have been angry : 'twas but the officious zeal of a well-meaning creature for my honour ; and however he might have mistook the road—or embarrassed me in so doing—his heart was in no fault—I was under no necessity to write—and what weighed more than all—he did not look as if he had done amiss.

—'Tis all very well, La Fleur, said I—'Twas sufficient. La Fleur flew out of the room like lightning, and return'd with pen, ink, and paper, in his hand ; and coming up to the table, laid them close before me, with such a delight in his countenance, that I could not help taking up the pen.

I begun and begun again ; and though I had nothing to say, and that nothing might have been express'd in half a dozen lines, I made half a dozen different beginnings, and could no way please myself.

In short, I was in no mood to write.

La Fleur stepp'd out and brought a little water in a glass to dilute my ink—then fetch'd sand and seal-wax—It was all one : I wrote, and blotted, and tore off, and burnt, and wrote again—*Le Diable l'emporte !* said I half to myself—I cannot write this self-same letter ; throwing the pen down despairingly as I said it.

As

As soon as I had cast down the pen, La Fleur advanced with the most respectful carriage up to the table, and making a thousand apologies for the liberty he was going to take, told me he had a letter in his pocket wrote by a drummer in his regiment to a corporal's wife, which, he durst say, would suit the occasion.

I had a mind to let the poor fellow have his humour—Then prithee, said I, let me see it.

La Fleur instantly pull'd out a little dirty pocket-book cramm'd full of small letters and billet-doux in a sad condition, and laying it upon the table, and then untying the string

which held them all together, them over one by one, till he to the letter in question—*La* said he, clapping his hands: so folding it first, he laid it before and retired three steps from the whilst I read it.

THE LETTER.

MADAME,

JE suis pénétré de la douleur la plus vive, et réduit en même temps au désespoir par ce retour imprévu du Corporal qui rend notre entrevue de ce soir la chose du monde la plus impossible.

Mais vive la joie ! et toute la mienne sera de penser à vous.

L'amour n'est *rien* sans sentiment.

Et le sentiment est encore *moins* sans amour.

L 3

Or

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On dit qu'on ne doit jamais
désespérer.

On dit aussi que Monsieur
poral monte la garde Mercredi
ce fera mon tour.

Chacun a son tour.

En attendant—Vive l'amour !
la bagatelle !

Je suis, MADAME
Avec toutes les sentimens
plus respectueux et les
tendres tout à vous,

J A Q U E S R

It was but changing the Corporal into the Count—and saying nothing about mounting guard on Wednesday—and the letter was neither right or wrong—so to gratify the poor fellow, who stood trembling for my honour, his own, and the honour of his letter,—I took the cream gently off it, and whipping it up in my own way—I seal'd it up and sent him with it to Madame de L***—and the next morning we pursued our journey to Paris.

P A R I S.

WHEN a man can contest the point by dint of equipage, and carry on all floundering before him with half a dozen lackies and a couple of cooks—'tis very well in such a place as P ris—he may drive in at which end of a street he will.

A poor prince who is weak in cavalry, and whose whole infantry does not exceed a single man, had best quit the field; and signalize himself in the cabinet, if he can get up into it—I say *up into it*—for there is no descending perpendicular amongst 'em with a “ *Me voici!*

“ *mes*

“*mes enfans*”—here I am—whatever many may think.

I own my first sensations, as soon as I was left solitary and alone in my own chamber in the hotel, were far from being so flattering as I had prefigured them. I walked up gravely to the window in my dusty black coat, and looking through the glass saw all the world in yellow, blue, and green, running at the ring of pleasure.—The old with broken lances, and in helmets which had lost their vizards—the young in armour bright which shone like gold, beplumed with each gay feather of the east—all—all tilting at it like
fascinated

THE WIG.

PARIS.

WHEN the barber came, he absolutely refused to have any thing to do with my wig: 'twas either above or below his art: I had nothing to do, but to take one ready made of his own recommendation.

—But I fear, friend! said I, this buckle won't stand.—You may immerge it, replied he, into the ocean, and it will stand—

What a great scale is every thing upon in this city! thought I—The
utmo

utmost stretch of an English periwig-maker's ideas could have gone no further than to have "dipped it into "a pail of water"—What difference! 'tis like time to eternity.

I confess I do hate all cold conceptions, as I do the puny ideas which engender them; and am generally so struck with the great works of nature, that for my own part, if I could help it, I never would make a comparison less than a mountain at least. All that can be said against the French sublime in this instance of it, is this—that the grandeur is *more* in the *word*; and *less* in the *thing*. No doubt the ocean fills the mind with vast ideas;
but

†

but Paris being so far inland, it was not likely I should run post a hundred miles out of it, to try the experiment—the Parisian barber meant nothing.—

The pail of water standing besides the great deep, makes certainly but a sorry figure in speech—but 'twill be said—it has one advantage—'tis in the next room, and the truth of the buckle may be tried in it without more ado, in a single moment.

In honest truth, and upon a more candid revision of the matter, *The French expression professes more than it performs.*

I think

I think I can see the precise and distinguishing marks of national characters more in these nonsensical *minutiae*, than in the most important matters of state ; where great men of all nations talk and stalk so much alike, that I would not give ninepence to chuse amongst them. -

I was so long in getting from under my barber's hands, that it was too late of thinking of going with my letter to Madame R * * * that night : but when a man is once dressed at all points for going out, his reflections turn to little account, so taking down the name of the Hotel de Modene, where I lodged, I
walked

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walked forth without any determination where to go—I shall consider that, said I, as I walk along.

THE PULSE.

PARIS.

HAIL ye small sweet courtesies
of life, for smooth do ye make
the road of it! like grace and beauty
which beget inclinations to love at
first sight; 'tis ye who open this door
and let the stranger in.

—Pray, Madame, said I, have
the goodness to tell me which way
I must turn to go to the Opera
comique:—Most willingly, Monsieur,
said she, laying aside her work—

I had given a cast with my eye
into half a dozen shops as I came
VOL. I. M along

along in search of a face not likely to be disordered by such an interruption; till at last, this hitting my fancy, I had walked in.

She was working a pair of ruffles as she sat in a low chair on the far side of the shop facing the door—

—*Tres volontiers*; most willingly, said she, laying her work down upon a chair next her, and rising up from the low chair she was sitting in, with so cheerful a movement and so cheerful a look, that had I been laying out fifty louis d'ors with her, I should have said—"This woman is
"grateful."

You

You must turn, Monsieur, said she, going with me to the door of the shop, and pointing the way down the street I was to take—you must turn first to your left hand—*mais prenez garde*—there are two turns; and be so good as to take the second—then go down a little way and you'll see a church, and when you are past it, give yourself the trouble to turn directly to the right, and that will lead you to the foot of the *pont neuf*, which you must cross—and there, any one will do himself the pleasure to shew you—

She repeated her instructions three times over to me with the same good-natur'd patience the third time

as the first;—and if *tones and man-*
 have a meaning, which certainly t
 have, unless to hearts which shut th
 out—she seem'd really interest
 that I should not lose myself.

I will not suppose it was the
 man's beauty, notwithstanding
 was the handsomest grisset, I thin
 I ever saw, which had much to
 with the sense I had of her courtes
 only I remember, when I told h
 how much I was obliged to her, th
 I looked very full in her eyes—a
 that I repeated my thanks as oft
 as she had done her instructions.

I had not got ten paces from t
 door, before I found I had forg
 ever

every tittle of what she had said—for looking back, and seeing her still standing in the door of the shop as if to look whether I went right or not—I returned back, to ask her whether the first turn was to my right or left—for that I had absolutely forgot.—Is it possible! said she, half laughing.—’Tis very possible, replied I, when a man is thinking more of a woman, than of her good advice.

As this was the real truth—she took it, as every woman takes a matter of right, with a slight courtesy.

—*Attendez!* said she, laying her hand upon my arm to detain me, whilst she called a lad out of the

back-shop to get ready a parcel of gloves. I am just going to send him, said she, with a packet into that quarter, and if you will have the complaisance to step in, it will be ready in a moment, and he shall attend you to the place.—So I walk'd in with her to the far side of the shop, and taking up the ruffle in my hand which she laid upon the chair, as if I had a mind to sit, she sat down herself in her low chair, and I instantly sat myself down besides her.

—He will be ready, Monsieur, said she, in a moment—And in that moment, replied I, most willingly would I say something very civil to you for all

all these courtesies. Any one may do a casual act of good nature, but a continuation of them shews it is a part of the temperature; and certainly, added I, if it is the same blood which comes from the heart, which descends to the extremes (touching her wrist) I am sure you must have one of the best pulses of any woman in the world—Feel it, said she, holding out her arm. So laying down my hat, I took hold of her fingers in one hand, and applied the two fore-fingers of my other to the artery—

—Would to heaven! my dear Eugenius, thou hadst passed by, and beheld me sitting in my black coat, and in my lack-a-day-sical manner,

M 4 counting

counting the throbs of it, one by one, with as much true devotion as if I had been watching the critical ebb or flow of her fever—How wouldst thou have laugh'd and moralized upon my new profession?—and thou shouldst have laugh'd and moralized on—Trust me, my dear Eugenius, I should have said, “there are worse occupations in this world *“ than feeling a woman's pulse.”*—But a Grisset's! thou wouldst have said—and in an open shop! Yorick—

—So much the better: for when my views are direct, Eugenius, I care not if all the world saw me feel it.

THE HUSBAND.

P A R I S.

I HAD counted twenty pulsations, and was going on fast towards the fortieth, when her husband coming unexpected from a back parlour into the shop, put me a little out in my reckoning.—’Twas no body but her husband, she said—so I began a fresh score—Monsieur is so good, quoth she, as he pass’d by us, as to give himself the trouble of feeling my pulse—The husband took off his hat, and making me a bow, said, I did him too much honour—and having

ing said that, he put on his hat and walk'd out.

Good God! said I to myself, as he went out—and can this man be the husband of this woman?

Let it not torment the few who know what must have been the grounds of this exclamation, if I explain it to those who do not.

In London a shopkeeper and a shopkeeper's wife seem to be one bone and one flesh: in the several endowments of mind and body, sometimes the one, sometimes the other has it, so as in general to be upon a par, and to tally with each other as nearly as man and wife need to do.

In

In Paris, there are scarce two orders of beings more different: for the legislative and executive powers of the shop not resting in the husband, he seldom comes there—in some dark and dismal room behind, he sits commerceless in his thrum night-cap, the same rough son of Nature that Nature left him.

The genius of a people where nothing but the monarchy is *salique*, having ceded this department, with sundry others, totally to the women—by a continual higgling with customers of all ranks and sizes from morning to night, like so many rough pebbles shook long together in a bag,

bag, by amicable collifions, they have worn down their afperities and fharp angles, and not only become round and fmooth, but will receive, fome of them, a polifh like a brilliant—*Monfieur le Mari* is little better than the ftone under your feet—

—Surely—furely man! it is not good for thee to fit alone—thou walt made for focial intercourfe and gentle greetings, and this improvement of our natures from it, I appeal to, as my evidence.

—And how does it beat, *Monfieur*? faid fhe.—With all the benignity, faid I, looking quietly in
her

er eyes, that I expected—She was going to say something civil in return—but the lad came into the shop with the gloves—*A propos*, said I; I want a couple of pair myself.

THE GLOVES

PARIS.

THE beautiful Griffet rose up when I said this, and going behind the counter, reach'd down a parcel and untied it: I advanced to the side over-against her: they were all too large. The beautiful Griffet measured them one by one across my hand—It would not alter the dimensions—She begg'd I would try a single pair, which seem'd to be the least—She held it open—my hand slipp'd into it at once—It will not do, said I,

2

shaking

shaking my head a little—No, said she, doing the same thing.

There are certain combined looks of simple subtlety—where whim, and sense, and seriousness, and nonsense, are so blended, that all the languages of Babel set loose together could not express them—they are communicated and caught so instantaneously, that you can scarce say which party is the infecter. I leave it to your men of words to swell pages about it—it is enough in the present to say again, the gloves would not do; so folding our hands within our arms, we both loll'd upon the counter—it was narrow, and there was just room for the parcel to lay between us.

The

The beautiful Griffet look'd sometimes at the gloves, then side-ways to the window, then at the gloves—and then at me. I was not disposed to break silence—I follow'd her example: so I look'd at the gloves, then to the window, then at the gloves, and then at her—and so on alternately.

I found I lost considerably in every attack—she had a quick black eye, and shot through two such long and filken eye-lashes with such penetration, that she look'd into my very heart and reins—It may seem strange, but I could actually feel she did—

It is no matter, said I, taking up a couple of the pairs next me, and putting them into my pocket.

I was sensible the beautiful Grisset had not ask'd above a single livre above the price—I wish'd she had ask'd a livre more, and was puzzling my brains how to bring the matter about—Do you think, my dear Sir, said she, mistaking my embarrassment, that I could ask a *sous* too much of a stranger—and of a stranger whose politeness, more than his want of gloves, has done me the honour to lay himself at my mercy?—*M'en croyez capable?*—Faith! not I, said I; and if you were, you are welcome—

So counting the money into her hand, and with a lower bow than one generally makes to a shopkeeper's wife, I went out, and her lad with his parcel followed me.

THE TRANSLATION.

P A R I S.

THERE was no body in the box I was let into but a kindly old French officer. I love the character, not only because I honour the man whose manners are softened by a profession which makes bad men worse; but that I once knew one—for he is no more—and why should I not rescue one page from violation by writing his name in it, and telling the world it was Captain Tobias Shandy, the dearest of my flock and friends, whose philanthropy I never

think of at this long distance from his death—but my eyes gush out with tears. For his sake, I have a predilection for the whole corps of veterans; and so I strode over the two back rows of benches, and placed myself beside him.

The old officer was reading attentively a small pamphlet, it might be the book of the opera, with a large pair of spectacles. As soon as I sat down, he took his spectacles off, and putting them into a shagreen case, return'd them and the book into his pocket together. I half rose up, and made him a bow.

Translate this into any civilized language in the world—the sense is this :

“ Here’s a poor stranger come in
 “ to the box—he seems as if he knew
 “ no body ; and is never likely,
 “ was he to be seven years in Paris,
 “ if every man he comes near keeps
 “ his spectacles upon his nose—’tis
 “ shutting the door of conversation
 “ absolutely in his face—and using
 “ him worse than a German.”

The French officer might as well have said it all aloud ; and if he had, I should in course have put the bow I made him into French too, and told him, “ I was sensible of his at-

“tention, and return’d him a thousand thanks for it.”

There is not a secret so aiding to the progress of sociality, as to get master of this *short hand*, and be quick in rendering the several turns of looks and limbs, with all their inflections and delineations, into plain words. For my own part, by long habitude, I do it so mechanically, that when I walk the streets of London, I go translating all the way; and have more than once stood behind in the circle, where not three words have been said, and have brought off twenty different dialogues with me, which I could have fairly wrote down and sworn to.

I was going one evening to Martini's concert at Milan, and was just entering the door of the hall, when the Marquessina di F * * * was coming out in a sort of a hurry—she was almost upon me before I saw her ; so I gave a spring to one side to let her pass—She had done the same, and on the same side to ; so we ran our heads together : she instantly got to the other side to get out : I was just as unfortunate as she had been ; for I had sprung to that side, and opposed her passage again—We both flew together to the other side, and then back—and so on—it was ridiculous ; we both blush'd intolerably ; so I did at last the thing I should have

done at first—I stood stock still, and the Marquesina had no more difficulty. I had no power to go into the room, till I had made her so much reparation as to wait and follow her with my eye to the end of the passage—She look'd back twice, and walk'd along it rather sideways, as if she would make room for any one coming up stairs to pass her—No, said I—that's a vile translation: the Marquesina has a right to the best apology I can make her; and that opening is left for me to do it in—so I ran and begg'd pardon for the embarrassment I had given her, saying it was my intention to have made her way. She answered, she

wa

guided by the same intention towards me—so we reciprocally thank'd each other. She was at the top of the stairs; and seeing no *chicbessee* for her, I begg'd to hand her to her chair—so we went down the stairs, stopping at every third step to talk of concert and the adventure—Upon that word, Madame, said I, when I had conducted her in, I made six different attempts to let you go out—And I made efforts, replied she, to let you enter with wish to heaven you would make the tenth, said I—With all my heart, she, making room—Life is too short to be long about the forms of ceremony—so I instantly stepp'd in, and she carried me home with her—And what

what became of the concert, St. Cecilia, who, I suppose, was at it, knows more than I.

I will only add, that the connection which arose out of that translation, gave me more pleasure than any one I had the honour to make in Italy.

THE DWARF.

P A R I S.

I H A D never heard the remark made by any one in my life, except by one ; and who that was, will probably come out in this chapter ; so that being pretty much unprepossessed, there must have been grounds for what struck me the moment I cast my eyes over the *parterre*—and that was, the unaccountable sport of nature in forming such numbers of dwarfs—No doubt, she sports at certain times in almost every corner of the world ; but in Paris, there is no
end

end to her amusements—The goddess seems almost as merry as she is wife.

As I carried my idea out of the *opera comique* with me, I measured every body I saw walking in the streets by it—Melancholy application! especially where the size was extremely little—the face extremely dark—the eyes quick—the nose long—the teeth white—the jaw prominent—to see so many miserables, by force of accidents driven out of their own proper class into the very verge of another which it gives me pain to write down—every third man a pigmy!—for by ricketty heads and hump backs

on

others by bandy legs—a third set arrested by the hand of Nature in the sixth and seventh years of their growth—a fourth, in their perfect and natural state, like dwarf apple-trees; from the first rudiments and stamina of their existence, never meant to grow higher.

A medical traveller might say, 'tis owing to undue bandages—a splenetic one, to want of air—and an inquisitive traveller, to fortify the system, may measure the height of their houses—the narrowness of their streets, and in how few feet square in the sixth and seventh stories such numbers of the *Bourgeoisie* eat and sleep together;

together ; but I remember, Mr. Shandy the elder, who accounted for nothing like any body else, in speaking one evening of these matters, averred, that children, like other animals, might be increased almost to any size, provided they came right into the world ; but the misery was, the citizens of Paris were so coop'd up, that they had not actually room enough to get them—I did not call it getting any thing, said he—'tis getting nothing—Nay, continued he, rising in his argument, 'tis getting worse than nothing, when all you have got, after twenty or five and twenty years of the tenderest care and most nutritious aliment bestowed u

on it, shall not at last be as high as my leg. Now, Mr. Shandy being very short, there could be nothing more said upon it.

As this is not a work of reasoning, I leave the solution as I found it, and content myself with the truth only of the remark, which is verified in every lane and by-lane of Paris. I was walking down that which leads from the Caroufal to the Palais Royal, and observing a little boy in some distress at the side of the gutter, which ran down the middle of it, I took hold of his hand, and help'd him over. Upon turning up his face to look at him after, I perceived he was about
forty—

forty—Never mind, said I; some good body will do as much for me when I am ninety.

I feel some little principles within me, which incline me to be merciful towards this poor blighted part of my species, who have neither size or strength to get on in the world—I cannot bear to see one of them trod upon; and had scarce got seated beside my old French officer, ere the disgust was exercised, by seeing the very thing happen under the box we sat in.

At the end of the orchestra, and betwixt that and the first side-box
there

there is a small esplanade left, where, when the house is full, numbers of all ranks take sanctuary. Though you stand, as in the parterre, you pay the same price as in the orchestra. A poor defenceless being of this order had got thrust some how or other into this luckless place—the night was hot, and he was surrounded by beings two feet and a half higher than himself. The dwarf suffered inexpressibly on all sides ; but the thing which incommoded him most, was a tall corpulent German, near seven feet high, who stood directly betwixt him and all possibility of his seeing either the stage or the actors. The poor dwarf did all he could to get a

peep at what was going forwards, by seeking for some little opening betwixt the German's arm and his body, trying first one side, then the other; but the German stood square in the most unaccommodating posture that can be imagined—the dwarf might as well have been placed at the bottom of the deepest draw-well in Paris; so he civilly reach'd up his hand to the German's sleeve, and told him his distress—The German turn'd his head back, look'd down upon him as Goliath did upon David—and unfeelingly resumed his posture.

I was just then taking a pinch of snuff out of my monk's little horn box—And how would thy meek and

courteous spirit, my dear monk! so temper'd to *bear and forbear*!—how sweetly would it have lent an ear to this poor soul's complaint!

The old French officer, seeing me lift up my eyes with an emotion, as I made the apostrophe, took the liberty to ask me what was the matter—I told him the story in three words; and added, how inhuman it was.

By this time the dwarf was driven to extremes, and in his first transports, which are generally unreasonable, had told the German he would cut off his long queue with his knife—The German look'd back coolly,

and told him he was welcome, if he could reach it.

An injury sharpened by an insult, be it to who it will, makes every man of sentiment a party : I could have leaped out of the box to have redressed it.—The old French officer did it with much less confusion ; for leaning a little over, and nodding to a centinel, and pointing at the same time with his finger at the distress—the centinel made his way up to it.—There was no occasion to tell the grievance—the thing told itself ; so thrusting back the German instantly with his musket—he took the poor dwarf by the hand, and placed him
before

before him.—This is noble! said I, clapping my hands together—And yet you would not permit this, said the old officer, in England.

—In England, dear Sir, said I, *we sit all at our ease.*

The old French officer would have set me at unity with myself, in case I had been at variance,—by saying it was a *bon mot*—and as a *bon mot* is always worth something at Paris, he offered me a pinch of snuff.

THE ROSE.

PARIS.

IT was now my turn to ask the old French officer "What was the matter?" for a cry of "*Hauffez les mains, Monsieur l'Abbe,*" re-echoed from a dozen different parts of the parterre, was as unintelligible to me, as my apostrophe to the monk had been to him.

He told me, it was some poor Abbe in one of the upper loges, who he supposed had got planted perdu behind a couple of griffets, in
order

order to see the opera, and that the parterre espying him, were insisting upon his holding up both his hands during the representation.—And can it be supposed, said I, that an ecclesiastick would pick the Grisset's pockets? The old French officer smiled, and whispering in my ear, open'd a door of knowledge which I had no idea of—

Good God! said I, turning pale with astonishment—is it possible, that a people so smit with sentiment should at the same time be so unclean, and so unlike themselves—*Quelle grossièreté!* added I.

The

The French officer told me, it was an illiberal farcaſm at the church, which had begun in the theatre about the time the *Tartuffe* was given in it, by Moliere—but, like other remains of Gothic manners, was declining—Every nation, continued he, have their refinements and *groſſièrtes*, in which they take the lead, and loſe it of one another by turns—that he had been in moſt countries, but never in one where he found not ſome delicacies, which others ſeemed to want. *Le POUR, et le CONTRE ſe trouvent en chaque nation* ; there is a balance, ſaid he, of good and bad every where ; and nothing but the knowing it is ſo can emancipate one half of the world
from

from the prepossessions which it holds against the other—that the advantage of travel, as it regarded the *savoir vivre*, was by seeing a great deal both of men and manners ; it taught us mutual toleration ; and mutual toleration, concluded he, making me a bow, taught us mutual love.

The old French officer delivered this with an air of such candour and good sense, as coincided with my first favourable impressions of his character—I thought I loved the man ; but I fear I mistook the object—’twas my own way of thinking—the difference was, I could not have expressed it half so well.

It



more virtues and purity of heart—In
our return back, Madame de Ram-
boullet desired me to pull the cord
—I asked her if she wanted any thing
—*Rien que piffer*, said Madame de
Ramboullet—

Grieve not, gentle traveller, to let
Madame de Ramboullet p--fs on—
And, ye fair mystic nymphs! go each
one *pluck your rose*, and scatter them
in your path—for Madame de Ram-
boullet did no more—I handed Ma-
dame de Ramboullet out of the
coach; and had I been the priest of
the chaste CASTALIA, I could not
have served at her fountain with a
more respectful decorum.

END OF VOL. I.

